

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Nathan's Furniture Store

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

317 High Street

1

CITY, TOWN

Cambridge

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Dorchester

STATE

COUNTY

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT
☒ BUILDING(S)
☐ STRUCTURE
☐ SITE
☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC
☒ PRIVATE
☐ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS
☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED
☐ UNOCCUPIED
☐ WORK IN PROGRESS
☒ YES: RESTRICTED
☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED
☐ NO

ACCESSIBLE

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE ☐ MUSEUM
☒ COMMERCIAL ☐ PARK
☐ EDUCATIONAL ☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE
☐ ENTERTAINMENT ☐ RELIGIOUS
☐ GOVERNMENT ☐ SCIENTIFIC
☐ INDUSTRIAL ☐ TRANSPORTATION
☐ MILITARY ☐ OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Milford Nathan Est.

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Dorchester County Courthouse

Liber #:

Folio #:

STREET & NUMBER

206 High Street

CITY, TOWN

Cambridge

STATE

Maryland 21613

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This three story brick building adjoins the two neighboring structures, 315 and 319 High Street. Although 319 is of a lower elevation, 317 and 315 are the same height sharing a continuous cornice of the same design. The facades differ, however. Above the cornice of 317 High Street, which is ornamented by pointed dentils and brackets at the corners, is a tablet inscribed "M. Nathan". Over this tablet is a triangular pediment with a ray pattern ornamentation. On the third story are two bullseye windows, and the second story is embellished with a large palladian window. The first story, however, appears to have undergone modernization.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 100-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Although the first story has been renovated, it is obvious that this was originally a quite handsome and stylish building. The upper two stories, with their classical details, are in good condition. This building contributes to the 19th century character of this block of High Street.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Catherine L. Moore

ORGANIZATION

DATE

12/3/75

STREET & NUMBER

Route 3, Box 32

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Cambridge

STATE

Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

315-317 High Street
Cambridge, Maryland

Add Reference: W/R APM 1/479

This is the oldest part of Nathan's Furniture and was built in 1892-1893, by Meyer Nathan, the founder of the business. Nathan established his first store in Cambridge in 1880. The original building was a two and a half story Georgian structure that burned down in the 1892 fire on High Street. Meyer Nathan died in 1911, with the store going to his son Milford. In 1914, he opened a branch in Seaford, Delaware, followed by a store in Salisbury, Maryland in 1922. By the early 1950's, Nathan's had seven stores on the Delmarva Peninsula. The first story of this building has been altered, but the remaining floors retain the original appearance. This building is one of several commercial structures from the late nineteenth century that add to the character of the portion of High Street.

Sources:

Dorchester County Courthouse, Cambridge, Maryland.

Court Records.

Land Records.

Will Records.

Dorchester County Office Building, Cambridge, Maryland.

Assessment Records.

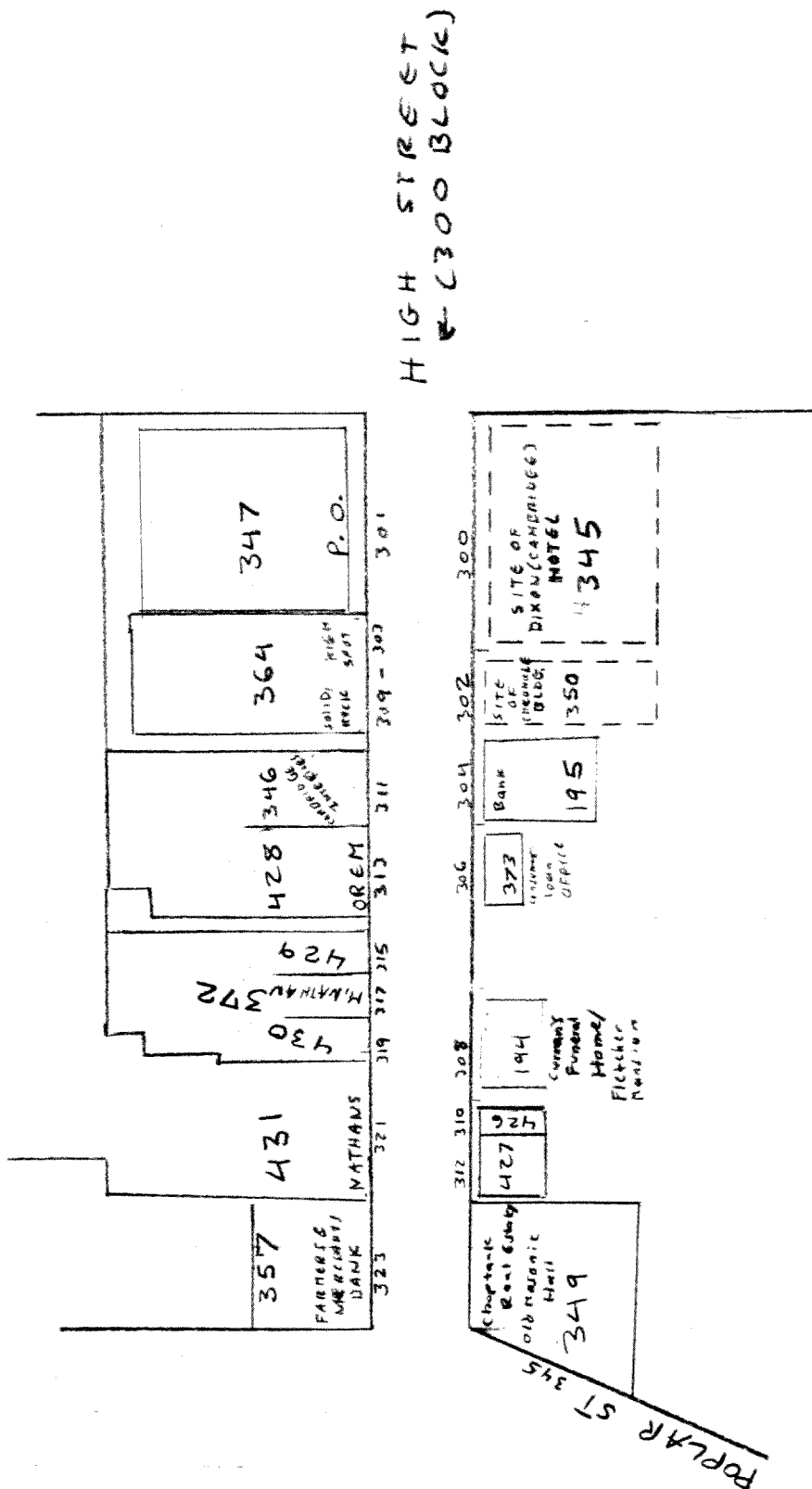
"Nathan's Stores Are Eastern Shore Area Community Centers',
Furniture World, June 26, 1952, pp. 40-41.

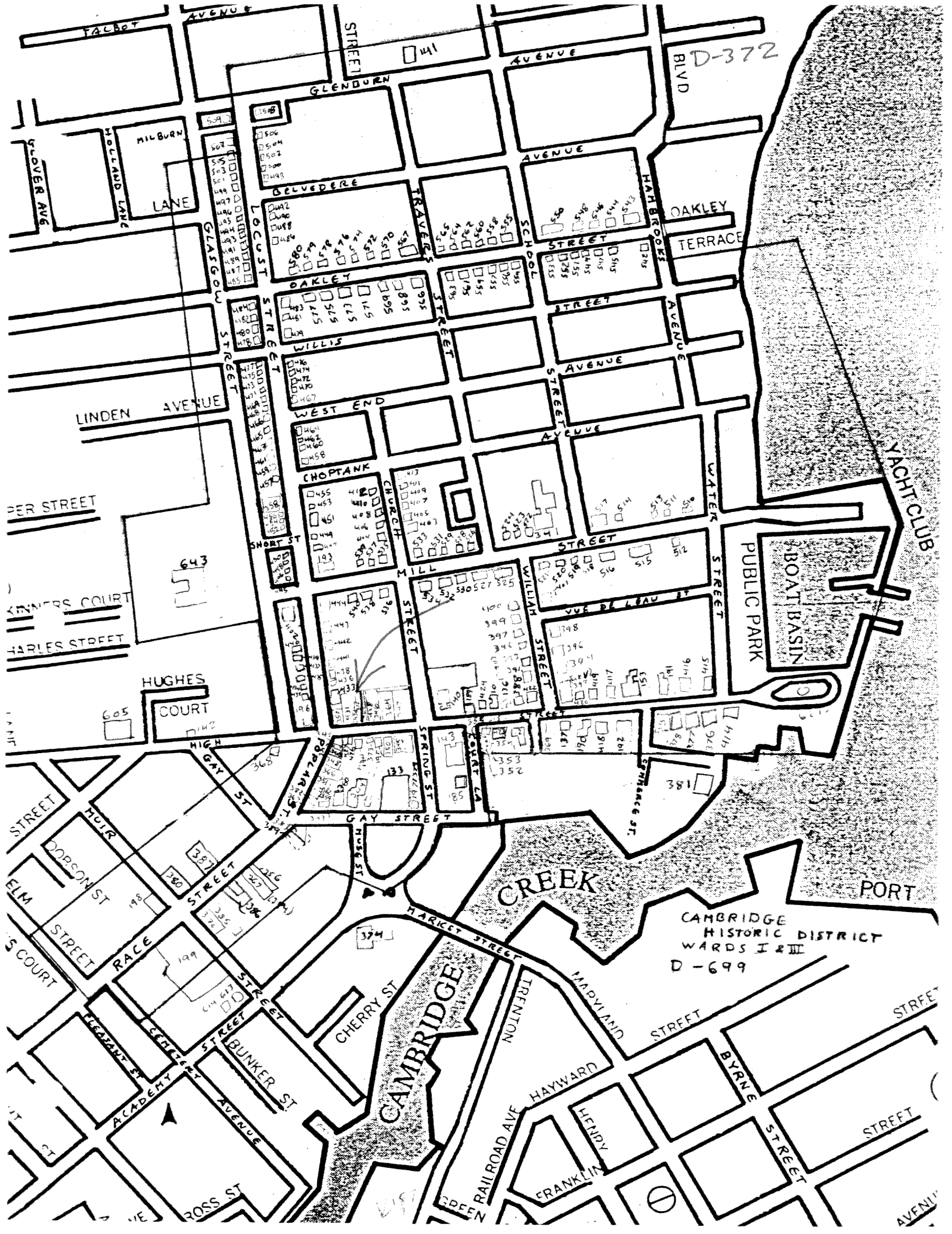
Research by:

Terrance P. Walbert

1976.

J. KOZLAY
12/21/93





13x1.67

50% D-372



D-372

N. H. Co. Furniture store

315-17 High St.

Panhandle

C. W. Co.

6/81



319-317-315 HIGH ST., CAMBRIDGE, EAST FACADE - C.L. MOORE, 1976

D-372